



Chancellor's Report

Chancellor John Pugh

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December 2010 Meeting



Eleventh Annual Evening at Egan Series is a Success

The annual Fall lecture and presentation season at the University of Alaska Southeast was a success. The Evening at Egan free Friday night series ran Sept. 10-Nov. 12, 2010. Most events this season attracted near standing room only crowds of community members, students, staff and faculty to venues in the Egan Lecture Hall or Library. The series kicked off with writer Terry Tempest Williams as part of the Bartlett Lecture Series. Other speakers included Outdoor Studies students and staff on their expedition to Denali, Haines author and columnist Heather Lende and Ohio Wesleyan University Professor Emeritus and Artist Marty Kalb with his Holocaust series. All Evening at Egan lectures were broadcast live on UA TV and on-line. UAS is gearing up for a shorter spring arts series: Sound and Motion.

Renovation and Expansion of Health Sciences Education Facilities

UAS Sitka Campus Complete

A \$2.1 million Title III project to design and construct two high tech, multi purpose classrooms, a lab-based science prep and storage space inside the WW II-era hangar space that houses the UAS Sitka Campus has been completed. The new facilities are now in use, online, and integrated into Alaska's rural distance learning and telemedicine environment. The Certified Nurses Assistant program is using the new Health Sciences classrooms and facilities. The Computer Laboratory is completed and in use and the faculty are moving into their new offices. The Telepresence room and Health Sciences classrooms are part of that renovation as well as the faculty offices.

This project converts a technologically outdated, 10-year old computer facility into offices and modules designed to support distance learning and telemedicine training. Faculty offices and collaborative learning areas immediately adjacent to the new Health Sciences laboratory and classroom complex facilitates integration with the advanced telecommunications network being deployed throughout rural Alaska. In addition, it allows for effective and efficient use of the new facilities by students, both local and distance.



State of the art facilities are part of the UAS Sitka campus remodel.

Upper: Telepresence Classroom, Lower: Science Lab Prep

UA Scholar Fly In

UAS hosted the 3rd annual UA Scholar Fly-in November 9-11 in conjunction with the UA Scholars Reception held Nov. 10. Nine students flew in from Haines, Sitka, Wrangell, Petersburg, Kake, Thorne Bay and Kasigluk. They were housed in the Schaible House and had a full day of activities on campus. At the UA Scholar Reception Chancellor John Pugh and UA President Patrick Gamble congratulated each student. Twenty-seven Juneau UA Scholars also attended the UA Scholar Reception, the largest number to date of new UA Scholars to participate in the event thus far. The number of new UA Scholars at UAS increases each year.



UAS Humanities 120 students enjoy the wind of the ferry on a trip to the Haines Bald Eagle Festival, November 14, 2010.

Anderson Building Remodel-Juneau Campus

The Anderson Building remodel is nearing completion with move-in scheduled for next month. Classes will again be held in the building starting in January for the Spring 2011 Semester. This project totally remodels the Juneau campus principal science building to accommodate the needs of the UAS Science program. The project is divided into two separate construction contracts. The first is the building remodel including classrooms, teaching labs, faculty offices, and research spaces. The second contract will be for the construction of a pedestrian crossing of Glacier Highway. These two elements are being designed, bid and constructed as separate contracts due to the different nature and schedules for the work.

In the remodel work major building components have been upgraded or replaced including heating and ventilating equipment and controls, the roof membrane and insulation, new toilet rooms, interior finishes, elevator replacement, classroom and laboratory casework and the emergency generator. Interior space is reconfigured to improve effectiveness of the teaching and research areas. The work has required the building to be vacated during renovation. Interim space for offices and labs is being accommodated elsewhere on campus, at the UAF Fisheries facility at Lena Point and at the old NOAA lab adjacent to the Anderson Building.

The pedestrian access work will include a pedestrian bridge connecting to the third floor of the Anderson Building and a paved and lighted pathway to the main campus. UAS is awaiting detailed design data on the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities proposed re-alignment of Glacier Highway. DOT&PF and UAS are re-examining the impacts of the future road and right-of-way re-alignment. Construction is intended for 2011.

The total project cost is estimated at \$10,700,000.

Record Number of Students Volunteer for Day of Caring

More than twenty-eight students donated their time to participate in the United Way Day of Caring Oct. 5. The UAS Day of Caring was held especially on a Saturday so that UAS students could participate and give back to their community. Students volunteered at many organizations around Juneau, including Puddle Jumpers Daycare, Southeast Alaska Food Bank, The Salvation Army, The Glory Hole and SAGA. "I think it turned out fabulous" Keni Campbell, UAS Alumni Relations Manager, said of the event. Campbell was also impressed with the number of students who chose to volunteer. "This was the largest number of Day of Caring volunteers that I have had since my time here at the University, for the past five years," Campbell said.

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Sanjay Pyare

UAS Assistant Professor of GIS and Landscape Ecology Sanjay Pyare was recently featured in the Alaska EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) Fall 2010 Newsletter. Here is an excerpt from the article "Our Man in Juneau".

Sanjay Pyare's attraction to Southeast Alaska has its roots in upstate New York. As an undergrad at New York's Hartwick College, Pyare conducted outdoor research on blackcapped chickadees. It was the first exposure that Pyare — who grew up outside New York City — had to field research, and he was hooked. "It was very different from a lab," said Pyare, now the University of Alaska Southeast representative on Alaska EPSCoR's management team. "I was awed that someone could actually do that for a living."



Dr. Sanjay Pyare

Pyare's inclination to outdoor field work led him west, and he received his Ph.D in Conservation Biology and Ecology from the University of Nevada in Reno in 2000. In 2005, a job offer from UAS finally brought him north to stay, and today he holds the position of Assistant Professor of Environmental Science and Geography at the Juneau campus. Pyare's research remains intimately tied to the landscape: his chief focus at UAS is the use of geographic information system (GIS) technology, which merges cartography and databases to allow for detailed analysis of phenomena spread over a geographic area.

Pyare's position on EPSCoR's management team allows him to serve as an advocate for UAS and for undergraduate research, which is a priority at UAS's undergraduate oriented campus. "I think my role is really to hit the undergraduate research heavy," he said. "By necessity, I almost have to."

Why UAS? Faculty Focus Campaign



The UAS Public Relations and Marketing Office has launched a *Why UAS? Faculty Focus* campaign. Key elements include a 30-second in-house produced television commercial and Web site featuring video faculty testimonials on why they choose to teach and work at UAS. The commercial is currently running statewide on public and commercial television. Supporting campaign video content was filmed on-location along nearby shoreline and the Mendenhall glacier and on-campus in the ceramics studio and at the Noyes Pavilion. The commercial and Web-directed content is available for viewing online at www.uas.alaska.edu/why-faculty